

I. Claims 1-15, drawn to multibinding compounds and pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compounds, classified in various classes depending on the compound, for example, any of class 540-570, subclasses various.

II. Claims 16-24, drawn to methods of modulating activity/treatment, classified in various classes depending on the compound and the disease treated, for example, any of classes 514 or 424, subclasses various.

III. Claims 25 and 27-39, drawn to a method for identifying multimeric ligand compounds using a library of linkers, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1 or class 436, subclass 501.

IV. Claims 26-39, drawn to a method for identifying multimeric ligand compounds using a library of ligands, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1 or class 436, subclass 501.

V. Claims 40 and 42-48, drawn to a library of multimeric ligand compounds prepared using a library of linkers, classified in various classes, depending on the library compounds, for example, any of class 540-570, subclasses various.

VI. Claims 41-48, drawn to a library of multimeric ligand compounds prepared using a library of ligands, classified in various classes depending on the library compounds, for example, any of class 540-570, subclasses various.

VII. Claims 49-51, drawn to an iterative method for identifying multimeric ligand compounds, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1 or class 436, subclass 501.

Applicants elect the claims of Group I, *i.e.*, Claims 1-15, drawn to multibinding compounds and pharmaceutical compositions comprising such compounds, with traverse.

Election of Species

A further election of species within Group I has been required. The election is to be made from the following species:

Species of multibinding compound

Species 1: Homomeric

Species 2: Heteromeric

Applicants elect Species 1, *i.e.* Homomeric, with traverse.

Election of Ligand

A further election of ligand within Species 1 has been required. The election is to be made from ligands set forth in Claims 2 and/or 3.

Applicants elect the ligand "diltiazem" as set forth in Claim 2, with traverse. Applicants further elect Compound (79) as shown in Figure 10 and described in Example 12 (pages 131-132), as the single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits. Claims 1-15 read on the elected compound.

Reasons for Traversing the Restriction Requirement/Election of Species

Applicants traverse the restriction of Group I (*i.e.*, multibinding compounds and pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds) and Group II (*i.e.*, method of modulating activity/treatment using the compounds of Group I). To examine the patentability of claims directed to using multibinding compounds for the modulation of calcium channels or the treatment of diseases resulting from calcium channel activity, one would necessarily search the compounds *per se*. With a structure search on the multibinding compounds in hand, the claims of Group I could be examined without placing a serious burden on the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

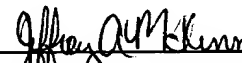
Applicants contend the restriction requirement as applied between Groups I and II should be withdrawn in view of the above remarks. Early, substantive action on the merits of claims embraced by these groups is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any

questions regarding the reply, or the application in general, she is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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